REMARKS

The Office Action mailed January 11, 2005 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claim 15 has been canceled. Claims 16 and 17 have been added. Claims 1-14, 16 and 17 are pending, the independent claims being 1 and 17. The Examiner's indication of allowable subject matter for claims 6-9 and 12 is appreciated. Claims 1-14 have been amended for clarity. Reconsideration of the above-identified application, as amended and in view of the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

The disclosure is objected to for informalities that are now believed to be overcome by amendment.

Claims 1 and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 as directed to non-statutory subject matter.

Claim 15 has now been canceled.

Claim 1 has been amended to conform to U.S. practice, as suggested by the Examiner, and so as to overcome the rejection. The amendment of claim 1 finds support in the specification (e.g., page 14, lines 6-10), original claim 2 and FIGs. 1A-D, 2.

Claims 2 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as indefinite.

Claim 2 has been amended for clarity in a manner believed to overcome the rejection.

Claim 3 has been amended for clarity in a manner believed to overcome the rejection (specification, page 7, lines 25-28).

Claim 7 stands objected to for improper dependency, which has now been corrected in the manner suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 1, 2, 10, 11 and 13-15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,373,529 to Brett in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,526,163 to Halmann et al. ("Halmann").

Claim 1, as amended, recites:

> a software data partitioning model that partitions the images of the sequence using time-stamped data packets, said model being formed of software modules linked by oriented connections associated to the modules through ports, at least one of the modules being configured for activating a respective, attached one of said image processing functions, for performance that temporally overlaps at least one of receiving and transferring out a packet of said packets that, correspondingly, is to be, or has been, subject to, image processing of the respective, activating module

Although Halmann discloses time-stamping within a memory for image data acquisition simulation, and synchronization among parallel threads (FIG. 6), the references, alone or in combination, fail to disclose or suggest "at least one of the modules being configured for . . . performance that temporally overlaps at least one of receiving and transferring out a packet of said packets that, correspondingly, is to be, or has been, subject to, image processing of the respective, activating module."

For at least this reason, the applied references fail to render obvious the invention as recited in claim 1 as amended.

Claims 3-5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Brett in view of Halmann and U.S. Patent No. 5,444,709 to Riddle.

Claims 3-5 depend from claim 1, and Riddle cannot make up for the deficiencies in Brett and Halmann.

As to the other rejected claims, each is deemed to distinguish patentably over the applied references at least due its dependency.

New claim 16 finds support in the specification (e.g., page 9, lines 31-33; page 14, lines 11-22).

New claim 17 is a method claim corresponding to software claim 1.

For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all the

present claims are patentable in view of the cited references. A Notice of Allowance is

respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Dan Piotrowski
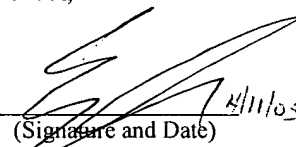Registration No. 42,079

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